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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hugh R. Sharkey et al. Art Unit: 3742

Serial No.: 10/712,006 Examiner: Yun H. Lee

Filed : November 14, 2003 Conf. No. : 7828
Title : METHOD FOR TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

## MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. Copies of any listed U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications can be provided upon request.

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. The fee in the amount of \$180 for payment of the late submission fee of \$1.17(p) is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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